

ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
SANITARY INSPECTOR
TO THE
Rural District Council of Buckingham.

1920.



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Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

For the Year ending December 31st, 1920.

STEEPLE CLAYDON,

2nd April, 1921.

To the Rural District Council of Buckingham.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in presenting you with my twenty-third Annual Report.

During the year I have attended 25 Council meetings and 11 Committee meetings.

At the Census of 1911 the District contained a population of 8,322, being an increase of 198 since the Census of 1901. There were 2,048 inhabited houses, having an average number of 3.993 persons per house. The Registrar General has estimated the population of the District for the year at 7,990, and this population is applicable to both births and deaths as far as this District is concerned. As you are aware the Census will be taken next month and this may make an appreciable difference in the actual number of the population from the estimated number.

The Rural District of Buckingham consists of 32 parishes, comprising an area of 54,696 acres (85 square miles), exclusive of the area covered with water, which amounts to 197 acres. It is an undulating well-wooded country with no hills of any considerable height. Grassland (principally permanent pasture) largely predominates, and consequently the amount of arable land is comparatively small, the principal crops being wheat and beans. During the War a good deal of land had been ploughed up for corn, but the area of this is less than it was a few years ago. The river Ouse flows through the District from Westbury, where it enters it, to Beachampton, where it leaves it, and it is joined by a considerable tributary at Thornborough. The river Ray, a small tributary of the Cherwell, and through it of the Thames, flows through Edgcott and Marsh Gibbon. Consequently the sewage disposal of these villages has to be treated to meet the requirements of the Thames Conservancy. Some brickmaking is carried on in the District (there are large brickworks at Calvert), but otherwise it is a purely agricultural district, sending a large quantity of milk to London, and the Buckingham Factory, also to Nestle's Milk Factory at Aylesbury.

Geological
Character.

The geological features of the District are of a varied character. The formation is that known as the Middle and Lower Oolite. Belonging to the latter is the Great Oolite, which is a soft and marley limestone, met with at Shalstone, Stowe and Thornborough. Another member of the Lower Oolite is the Cornbrash, a rubbly limestone of a blue colour which becomes yellow on exposure to air owing to the oxidation of the iron present. This member of the series is found at Akeley, Beachampton, Maids Moreton, Marsh Gibbon, Thornborough and Tingewick. Marsh Gibbon stands on a little hill of Cornbrash. The Middle Oolite is principally represented in the District by the Oxford clay, a bluish clay weathering yellow on the surface, it is about 400 feet thick; sand and gravel drifts are of frequent occurrence as well as large masses of clay full of pebbles. These deposits are relics of the glacial period and were either dropped by melting icebergs or deposited as "moraines" at the end of a great glacier, which travelled down from the north of Buckinghamshire and the adjoining counties, although the ice probably never reached quite to the river Thames. The river gravels of the Ouse are of large extent and abound in oolite fossils, especially "belemnites." During the year 1911 borings for coal were made at Calvert to the depth of about 1,000 feet. These borings reached the Palæozoic floor and penetrated the Lower Tremadoc Shales of the Cambrian system. A discharge of natural gas still continues from the boring and can be set light to.

Birth-rate.

The inhabitants are chiefly engaged in agricultural pursuits and as a consequence they lead an outdoor life, which has naturally a good influence on public health.

Death-rate.

The number of births registered during the year 1920 was 171 (94 boys and 77 girls), equal to an annual birth-rate of 21·4 per 1,000 living compared with 14·4 for 1919. This is a considerable increase (just about 50 per cent.). The rate for England and Wales for 1920 was 25·4. Five boys and four girls were illegitimate.

Infantile
Mortality.

The number of deaths registered during the year 1920 was 106 (64 males and 42 females), equal to an annual death-rate of 13·3 per 1,000 living compared with 10·9 for the year 1919. The death-rate for England and Wales for 1920 was 12·4.

~~Rainfall.~~

The Infantile Mortality for 1920 was 58 compared with 95 for the year 1919. The rate for England and Wales for 1920 was 80. There were 2 deaths, both boys, amongst illegitimate infants under 12 months old. There were no deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis amongst children under

rainfall continued. 2 years of age. There is no General Hospital in this District, but the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, the Royal Bucks Hospital, Aylesbury, and the Northampton Hospital are all largely availed of, as well as the Nursing Home in Buckingham town.

The rainfall for the past year amounted to 23'00 inches, which is under the average for the last 30 years. In 1919 the rainfall was 26'92 inches.

The number of rainy days in 1920 was 173, compared with 165 in 1919. April had 25 rainy days, while October and November had each only 8. The wettest month was July with 3'20 inches, while the driest was February with 0'54 inches. Snow fell on 6 days. The summer was considered a wet and unseasonable one, and this was principally due to there being no less than 21 wet days in July.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

water. The water supplies of the District are on the whole satisfactory, but there is no Public Waterworks Company and no scheme for supplying more than a single village. Private wells are a source of supply in all the villages, and the public supplies are as follows :—

ADSTOCK : One public pump.

AKELEY : One public pump and one public tap ; the latter supplied by gravitation.

BARTON HARTSHORN : One private tap supplied by gravitation.

CHARNDON AND CALVERT : Public supply by gravitation and standpipes ; water raised from well at Charndon to service reservoir by means of a windmill.

CHETWODE : One public fountain supplied by gravitation.

EDGCOTT : Public supply from reservoir by gravitation and standpipes.

LILLINGSTONE LOVELL : One public fountain supply by gravitation.

MAIDS MORETON : Four public pumps.

MARSH GIBBON : Two public pumps and a gravitation supply with standpipes for part of the village. This supply is obtained from "Stump" well. These waters are all peaty, but no lead pipes or fittings are used.

MIDDLE CLAYDON : One public tap at Verney Junction supplied by gravitation.

PADBURY : Public supply by gravitation and standpipes.

POUNDON : Public supply by gravitation and standpipes.

PRESTON BISSETT : One public pump.

SHALSTONE : One public tap and one fountain both supplied by gravitation.

STEEPLE CLAYDON : Public supply from three wells by gravitation and standpipes to lower end of village, and one public pump. The rest of the village is supplied by private wells. An annual payment is made to Sir Harry Verney for the water rights of the public supply.

THORNBOROUGH : Two public pumps.

TINGEWICK : Four public pumps.

TURWESTON : Public supply by gravitation and stand pipe.

TWYFORD : Public supply by standpipes which are fed by gravitation from reservoirs about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant from village.

WATER STRATFORD : Public supply by gravitation and standpipes.

WESTBURY : Public supply by gravitation and standpipes. A windmill is used to pump water from a well into a service reservoir.

Twyford and Charndon are charged a special water rate to pay off money borrowed to carry out their respective water schemes.

The villages or parishes of Addington, Beachampton, Biddlesden, Foscott, Hillesden, Leckhampstead Lillingstone Dayrell, Radclive-cum-Chackmore, Stowe and Thornton are dependent for their water supplies on private wells.

Rivers and Streams.

At Edgcott and Marsh Gibbon sewage treatment by means of septic tanks, etc., is undertaken to meet the requirements of the Thames Conservancy, as a small river, the River Ray, which is a tributary of the Cherwell and Thames, flows through these parishes. There are also septic tanks and filters for dealing with sewage in the parishes of Maids Moreton, Preston Bissett, Steeple Claydon, Thornborough, Water Stratford and Westbury. These filters are cleaned out regularly and re-charged.

Drainage and Sewage.

The following villages have a service of sewers with socketted pipes, the joints of which are set in cement, and those laid in recent years have been smoke tested :—Akeley, Charndon, Edgcott, Leckhampstead, Maids Moreton, Marsh Gibbon, Middle Claydon, Poundon, Radclive-cum-Chackmore, Steeple Claydon, Thornborough, Turweston, Twyford, Water Stratford and Westbury.

The following villages are served by sewers and sewer ditches :—Adstock and Preston Bissett, Barton Hartshorn, Hillesden, Padbury and Stowe-cum-Dadford have sewer ditches ; Beachampton and Shalstone have sewer brooks which are tributaries of the Great Ouse, and Tingewick has a culvert sewer which is insufficient and unsuitable for carrying off the sewage of the village.

The parishes of Addington, Biddlesden, Chetwode, Foscott, Lillingstone Dayrell, Lillingstone Lovell, Luffield Abbey and Thornton do not possess any sewers or general system of drainage. In these parishes the houses are few and scattered, and individual houses have their cesspools into which the sewage flows and which are emptied at intervals.

closet
accommodation. There are comparatively few water closets in this District. The great majority of closets are earth closets of the pail type. There are still a few vault closets in existence, but these are being gradually got rid of.

scavenging. There are no arrangements for public scavenging. The occupiers empty the contents of their pail closets on their gardens and dig it in, and there are always sufficient facilities for doing so. Cesspools and privy vaults are emptied by the occupiers at regular intervals. Movable ashbins are very few in number.

sanitary
inspection of
district. The tabular statement from the Inspector of Nuisances appears as usual at the end of my Report. He is now engaged in making an exhaustive report on the villages of the District, and these reports have already been printed as regards the villages of Akeley, Charndon, Edgcott, Maids Moreton, Marsh Gibbon, Preston Bissett, Steeple Claydon, Tingewick and Twyford.

premises, etc.,
which can be
controlled by
by-laws, etc. There are no offensive trades carried on in the District and no underground sleeping rooms.

schools. The sanitary condition of the Schools in the District is good, and their water supplies are satisfactory.

FOOD.

Milk Supply. The District is largely engaged in sending milk to London, and this Council has always been anxious and ready to do what it could in safeguarding the supply. The Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders of 1885 and 1889 have been adopted for some years. The cowsheds of the District have been wonderfully improved and are kept under constant supervision. They are limewashed twice a year. This Council sanctions the calling in of a Veterinary Surgeon in case of any suspicious case of Tuberculosis amongst milking cows. With regard to the Milk and Cream Regulations of 1912 and 1917, this Council is not a Local Authority under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

As regards the Milk (Mothers and Children) Order 1918, this Council has supplied milk in two cases and is still supplying it in one case. There are no manufactories of food in the District. The bakehouses and slaughter-houses are

regularly inspected, and they are kept clean and in good sanitary condition to meet the requirements of the Inspector of Nuisances. There is no public abattoir in the District, and no carcasses or parts of carcasses of animals have been condemned for tuberculosis.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following infectious diseases were notified in this District during 1920: Scarlet Fever, 9; Diphtheria, 3; Erysipelas, 1; Pneumonia, 6; Malaria, 5; and Acute Polio-myelitis, 1; making a total of 25 in comparison with 38 in 1919.

Many more diseases are now notifiable than in 1889, when it was first made compulsory to notify cases of dangerous infectious disease. I append the following list:—

I.—Small-pox, Cholera, Diphtheria, Membranous Croup, Erysipelas, the disease known as Scarlatina or Scarlet Fever, and the fevers known by any of the following names: Typhus, Typhoid, Enteric (including Paratyphoid) Relapsing, Continued or Puerperal.

Infectious Disease (Notification) Act 1889.

II.—Tuberculosis (all forms of).

Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations 1912.

III.—Cerebro-spinal Fever and acute Polio-myelitis.

Public Health (Cerebro-spinal and Acute Polio-myelitis)
Regulations 1912.

IV.—Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Public Health (Ophthalmia Neonatorum) Regulations
1914).

V.—Acute Encephalitis lethargica and Acute Polio-encephalitis.

Public Health Regulations (17th Dec., 1918, L.G.B., No.
65,087).

VI.—Malaria, Dysentery (amœbic and bacillary), Trench Fever, Acute Primary Pneumonia and Acute Influenzal Pneumonia.

Public Health (Pneumonia, Malaria, Dysentery, &c.)
Regulations 1919.

Two deaths have been caused by Diphtheria and three by Pneumonia, but none has occurred from Enteric Fever or Diarrhœa (under 2 years).

Bacteriological aids to diagnosis have been made use of in cases of Diphtheria, and diphtheria anti-toxin has been used in all cases of that disease. There have been no return or carrier cases of Scarlet Fever.

The Isolation Hospital is now completed and ready for occupation when necessary. It is situated in the parish of Tingewick on the road leading from Gawcott to Preston Bissett. The buildings are erected in a field owned by the Council. The area of the field is about $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres. The Hospital Wards are converted army huts, lined with asbestos sheeting. Provision is made for treating two separate diseases and two sexes, and accommodation is provided for 25 patients in four wards. In addition to the Wards, bedrooms are provided for the Nurses; there is a separate kitchen, coal place, three W.C.'s and bathrooms. The water supply is laid on, and a good drainage system provided.

On the outbreak of any infections or epidemic form of disease in the Schools notice is sent by the Head Teacher to the Medical Officer of Health; also in cases of Ringworm, Scabies, Impetigo, etc. During the year 4 deaths have occurred from Influenza, but there has been nothing like a severe epidemic. The four Influenza deaths all took place in males, compared with 5 deaths in 1919 (3 males and 2 females).

The requirements as to notification of Tuberculosis are well observed in the District. Seven cases were notified during the year; all these were males, and five were cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Ten deaths (all pulmonary) occurred during 1920, seven males and three females. In cases of death from Tuberculosis (and Cancer) the Registrar immediately sends me notice of the death so that the premises may be disinfected without delay. When any suspicious case of Tuberculosis arises amongst milking cows a Veterinary Surgeon is called in to apply the Tuberculin test.

There have been no cases of primary vaccinations or re-vaccinations performed by the Medical Officer of Health as such, and I am sorry to say that a large proportion of infants are not vaccinated. When it is made so easy for them to obtain exemptions no other result is to be expected. The compulsory notification of Chicken-pox was continued by your Council from last June for another 12 months. There were no cases of Rabies or Anthrax in the District during 1920.

There has been no case of Puerperal Fever since 1913, and only two cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum during the same period. The sight has not been affected in either case of the latter disease.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

The Staff consists of the Medical Officer of Health and one Inspector of Nuisances.

The Infectious Disease (Notification) Act 1889 was adopted on November 23rd, 1889, and the Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act 1890 was adopted on February 28th, 1891. Regulations were made on 17th November, 1906, and are put into force for the carrying out of the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders of 1885 and 1899. Bye-laws are also in existence for the following: New streets and buildings, slaughter-houses and the laying of water connections.

As regards bacteriological work, swabs are sent for examination to the Clinical Research Association, London, and are paid for by the Council; also diphtheria anti-toxin is supplied free. No applications have been received for anti-influenza vaccine. Examination of sputa for tubercular bacilli is undertaken by the County Medical Officer for Tuberculosis at Aylesbury.

All the Urban and Rural Districts in North Bucks are supporting a Motor Ambulance scheme, by which patients suffering from any disease (infectious or otherwise) who are in need of hospital treatment can be sent to hospital with despatch and comfort. Surgeon-Colonel Bull, of Stony Stratford, is Director of this scheme, and a motor ambulance has been presented by the Government.

HOUSING.

I.—(1) The number of houses in this District at the Census of 1911 was 2,084. The number of houses of rateable value up to £8 was 1,805 and over £8 and not exceeding £16, 226. Only three working-class houses were erected from January 1st, 1915, to December 31st, 1918. Lower down the number of houses in course of erection are set out in detail under the separate villages in the District.

(2) The population at the Census of 1911 was 8,322, and the present population is estimated by the Registrar General at 7,990 for all purposes. I anticipate a slight increase during the coming year.

(3) (a) There is certainly a shortage of houses to the extent of 150, 111 of which are intended to meet the unsatisfied demand for house accommodation and 39 to replace other dwellings which are unfit for human habitation and which cannot be made fit.

(b) The following is a detailed list of the several villages in the District which require houses, and the numbers proposed to be erected to supply their wants:—

				Estimate of Housing Needs.	Scheme of the Buckingham Rural District Council for the provision of new Houses under Sec. 1 Housing and Town Planning Act, 1919.		
Akeley	...	...	6	...	...	...	6
Beachampton	...	...	12	...	...	...	4
Charndon	...	...	12	...	...	...	8
Edgcott	...	...	4	...	...	...	4
Hillesden	...	...	8	...	...	...	4
Maids Moreton	...	...	24	...	...	...	12
Marsh Gibbon	...	...	4	...	...	...	4
Middle Claydon	...	...	6	...	...	...	4
Padbury	...	...	6	...	...	...	4
Preston Bissett	...	...	8	...	...	...	2
Steeple Claydon	...	...	20	...	...	...	20
Thornborough	...	...	12	...	...	...	6
Tingewick	...	...	16	...	...	...	4
Twyford	...	...	8	...	...	...	4
Water Stratford	...	...	4	...	No decision at present.		
				150			
							78

II.—OVERCROWDING :

- (1) Extent.—There is not a great deal of overcrowding.
- (2) Causes.—Shortage of houses.
- (3) Measures taken or contemplated for dealing with overcrowding.—The present building scheme will remedy it.
- (4) Principal cases of overcrowding during the year and action taken.—No cases dealt with.

III.—FITNESS OF HOUSES :

- (1) (a) General standard of houses in the District.—Fairly good on the whole, in some cases very good.
- (b) General character of the defects found to exist in unfit houses.—Want of damp course, deficient ventilation, spouting defective, leaky thatched roofs.
- (2) General action taken as regards unfit houses under
 - (a) the Public Health Acts.
 - (b) the Housing Acts.
- (3) Difficulties in remedying unfitness, special measures taken or suggested, including, for example, any special action taken to secure improved management of property by owners ; the gradual carrying out of repairs according to agreed arrangements ; or any special method of dealing with unfit back to back houses or other type of insanitary property.— There are no back to back houses in the District.

(4) Conditions, so far as they affect housing, as regards water supply, closet accommodation and refuse disposal, together with measures taken during the year in these matters. —Water supply and closet accommodation fairly good. No trouble with disposal of refuse. Preliminary notices have been served in several cases, and these have had the desired effect.

IV.—UNHEALTHY AREAS.—There are no unhealthy areas in this District.

V.—BYE-LAWS RELATING TO HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS, AND TO TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, &C. :

There are no bye-laws in force for houses let in lodgings, or for tents, vans and sheds. They are not required in this district.

VI.—GENERAL AND MISCELLANEOUS :

Generally an account of any action bearing on the public health not covered by the above particulars, which has been taken during the year by the local authority in connection with overcrowding, insanitary property and housing whether under the Housing Acts or the Public Health Acts.—No severe action with regard to insanitary houses has been taken during the War and since the Armistice owing to the impossibility of the tenants getting other accommodation. Some of the houses which are being built under the Housing Scheme will soon be ready for occupation and then insanitary dwellings will be more readily and strictly dealt with.

LIST OF PARISHES IN THE RURAL DISTRICT OF
BUCKINGHAM AND PARTICULARS TO DATE OF THE
HOUSING SCHEME IN EACH PARISH.

Addington.—Small parish with a population of 149. No houses required.

Adstock.—Population of parish, 286. No houses required.

Akeley.—Population of parish, 279. Negotiations in progress for site to erect 6 houses,

Barton Hartshorn.—Population of parish, 83. No houses required.

Beachampton.—Population of parish, 193. Negotiations in progress for site to erect 6 houses.

Biddlesden.—Population of parish, 114. No houses required.

Charndon.—This parish is a hamlet of Twyford and includes 39 workmen's houses at the brickworks at Calvert. Population, 240. Work commenced on the erection of 8 cottages, in various stages of construction.

Chetwode.—Population of parish, 142. No houses required.

Edgcott.—Population of parish, 127. Site purchased and Tenders invited for the erection of 4 cottages.

- Foscott.**—Population of parish, 54. No houses required.
- Hillesden.**—Population of parish, 205. Negotiations in progress for purchase of site to erect 4 cottages.
- Leckhampstead.**—Population of parish, 243. No houses required.
- Lillingstone Dayrell.**—Population of parish, 248. No houses required.
- Lillingstone Lovell.**—Population of parish, 131. No houses required.
- Luffield Abbey.**—Very small parish with 7 inhabitants. No houses required.
- Maids Moreton.**—Population of parish, 371. Work commenced on the erection of 12 cottages.
- Marsh Gibbon.**—Population of parish, 587. Site purchased and Tender accepted for the erection of 4 houses.
- Middle Claydon.**—Population of parish, 257. This is a scattered village with 3 centres of population, viz., Middle Claydon proper, Sandhill and Verney Junction. Site obtained and Tenders invited for the erection of 4 houses.
- Padbury.**—Population of parish, 442. Work commenced on the erection of 4 houses.
- Poundon.**—Population of parish, 95. No houses required. This is a hamlet of Charndon.
- Preston Bissett.**—Population of parish, 285. Site purchased and Tender accepted for the erection of two houses.
- Radclive-cum-Chackmore.**—Population of parish, 294. This parish comprises the villages of Radclive and Chackmore, which are two miles apart. There are also a few houses of Radclive parish which are practically in the town of Buckingham. No houses required.
- Shalstone.**—Population of parish, 166. No houses required.
- Steeple Claydon.**—Population of parish, 840. This is the largest village in this district. 12 houses are being erected and 6 of them will shortly be ready for occupation.
- Stowe-cum-Dadford.**—Population of parish, 251. No houses required.
- Thornborough.**—Population of parish, 443. 6 houses have been erected and will shortly be ready for occupation.
- Thornton.**—Population of parish, 86. No houses required.
- Tingewick.**—Population of parish, 663. Negotiations in progress to purchase site for the erection of 4 houses.
- Turweston.**—Population of parish, 243. No houses required.
- Twyford.**—Population of parish, 358. Site purchased and Tenders invited for the erection of 4 houses.
- Water Stratford.**—Population of parish, 135. No houses required.
- Westbury.**—Population of parish, 287. No houses required.

I have the honour to remain,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

PHILIP L. BENSON, M.D., D.P.H. (CAMB.),

Medical Officer of Health.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD TABLE.

Statement required by Article V. of the Housing (Inspection of Districts) Regulations, 1910, in regard to the inspection of dwelling-houses under Section 17 (1) of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909.

	1920
Number of dwelling-houses inspected under and for the purpose of the Act	780
Number of such dwelling-houses which were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	32
Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which representations were made to the local authority with a view to the making of closing orders	Nil
Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which closing orders were made by the local authority	Nil
Number of dwelling-houses the defects in which were remedied without the making of closing orders	186
Number of dwelling-houses which, after the making of closing orders, were made fit for human habitation... ..	Nil
Demolition Orders made	Nil
Number of houses demolished	1
Number of houses in which defects were remedied by local authority and costs recovered	Nil
Number of houses in which defects were remedied by local authority and costs not yet recovered	Nil
General Character of Defects found :	
(a) Drainage Defects	91
(b) Closet Accommodation, insufficient or defective	26
(c) Water Supply exposed to surface pollution	11
(d) Insufficient circulation of air	52
(e) Dampness	63
(f) Insufficient light	27
(g) Dirty by tenant's default	16
(h) Dirty by landlord's default	60
(i) Insufficient paving	72
(j) Defective methods of refuse disposal	20
(k) Internal structural defects	62
(l) Defective roofs, gutters and down pipes	68

The following Bye-laws and Regulations are in force in this District :—

ADOPTIVE ACTS.

Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890.

Public Health Acts Amendment Acts, 1890. Part 3.

BYE-LAWS.

Slaughter Houses.

New Streets and Buildings.

REGULATIONS.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

Water Supply.

Annual Report of the Sanitary Surveyor and Inspector

For the Year ending December 31st, 1920.

BUCKINGHAM,

April, 1921.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Rural District
Council of Buckingham.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have great pleasure in submitting to you my second Annual Report upon the sanitary works and improvements which have been carried out in your District during the year 1920, and in doing so I would sincerely thank your Council and General Purposes Committee for the kind consideration given to my several reports and for the action taken thereon.

Housing
Regulations.

House-to-house inspections have been made during the year in the Parishes of Tingewick, Akeley, Leckhampstead, Twyford, Marsh Gibbon, Edgcott, and Lillingstone Dayrell. In each case where defects were found to exist details of the defects were sent to the owners of the property. I have had numerous interviews with property owners in reference to these defects. This is the course adopted where possible; by it much valuable time is saved, and a proper understanding arrived at with a minimum of friction. Extensive improvements have been carried out to put the cottages into habitable condition and to meet your requirements, and it was only necessary in four cases to serve any notice beyond the preliminary notice on the owner to get the improvements carried out.

In one case the following work was done after a preliminary notice was served:—The dilapidated plaster to walls and ceiling made good; 2 new floors laid and others repaired; the whole of the interior cleaned down and distempered; the roof overhauled and made watertight; new pavement provided; new drains laid.

Details of houses inspected will be found included in the Medical Officer's Report.

Cowsheds and
Dairies.

During the year seven cowkeepers have been registered, and 13 gave up the business, thus leaving 186 registered cowkeepers in your District. The cowsheds and premises are periodically inspected, and in cases

where the regulations in regard to cleanliness had not been observed, a verbal request in most cases had the desired result.

During the year 10 cowsheds have been improved by laying new drains, repairing and making good defective floors, providing more light and ventilation.

Forty-one notices were served during the year for the remedying of defects. In two instances new cowsheds of modern construction, providing sufficient light, ventilation and air space per cow as required by your regulations, were built, replacing old and insanitary ones.

Slaughter
Houses.

During the year all the slaughter-houses in the District have been regularly inspected. It has been my endeavour to have them kept in a satisfactory condition, structurally and with regard to the limewashing and the immediate removal of offal. The necessary cleansing was in every instance carried out after making a verbal request or serving a preliminary notice on the occupier.

In two instances improvements have been carried out to the sanitary condition of slaughter-houses.

No seizures of diseased or unsound meat were made during the year, and it gives me great pleasure to be able to report that all the meat inspected was of prime quality only.

Infectious
Diseases.

During the past year the District has been practically free from infectious diseases. The few that occurred were isolated ones, and were treated in their own homes. On receiving the necessary information from your Medical Officer, immediate steps were taken to prevent the spread of infection. Revisits were frequently made and disinfectants supplied. After a house has been infected with any of the notifiable infectious diseases, the rooms, bedding, and all the clothes which have been in contact with infection are thoroughly disinfected. A notice is also served on the owner to have the house limewashed and cleansed throughout.

Owing to the prevalence of Summer Diarrhœa in parts of the District, particular precautions were taken by Dr. Benson's instructions to prevent any nuisance being caused by accumulations of rubbish near to the houses.

Factories,
Workshops and
Bakehouses.

The Factories, Workshops and Bakehouses in the District have been periodically inspected, and on the whole they are kept in excellent order, but few defects have been found which were remedied by either verbal or written notices being given.

The Bakehouses have been found in good condition generally, and limewashing has been well attended to.

Petroleum Acts

Two applications were received for the renewal of licences to store Carbide of Calcium and one for the storage of Petrol. In all cases the licences were granted by your Council.

New Buildings

In addition to the Cottages being erected by the Council under their Housing Scheme, one new house has been erected and additions to five existing houses. All the buildings were frequently inspected whilst in course of erection; all drains being tested before allowing them to be filled in.

Your building bye-laws in each case were enforced.

Sewage and
Sewage Disposal

The Sewers of the District have been maintained in good condition; no serious complaints were received of offensive emanations from them. Six blockages occurred; these were caused by roots of trees having found their way into the pipes through defective joints. It was found necessary to take up lengths of sewer to extract the roots and accumulations at Marsh Gibbon Charndon, Akeley, Twyford, and Leckhampstead.

New lengths of sewer laid:—20 yards near Post Office, Thornborough; 20 yards near Church, Marsh Gibbon; 60 yards Back Lane, Akeley; 40 yards Barton Hartshorne.

Repairs have also been carried out to the sewers at Steeple Claydon, Twyford and Charndon.

The septic tanks throughout the District have been periodically cleansed.

The filters at Steeple Claydon, Marsh Gibbon and Water Stratford have been cleansed and recharged.

Water Supplies.

Water is supplied to 12 Villages through mains to public standpipes of the anti-freezing type, fixed in such positions to suit the convenience of the villagers.

The reservoirs, mains, standpipes, and the wind engine at Charndon have been maintained in good working order. Leakages were discovered in the water mains at Padbury, Twyford, Water Stratford and Charndon. In each case the leakage was immediately located and the mains repaired without wasting serious quantities of water.

Standpipes in the Villages of Charndon, Steeple Claydon, and Akeley got out of order and were repaired.

The sanitary arrangements to all the Schools in the District have been inspected and found generally satisfactory.

In conclusion, I would tender my heartiest thanks to Dr. Benson for his helpful assistance and advice, and also to the Clerk and Road Surveyor for their very many kindnesses and for all the assistance given.

I have the honour to remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. FALLOWS, M.I.MUN.E



Buckingham Rural District.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT, 1920.

This Return does not include work done under the Housing Acts.

GENERAL.

Number of Inspections for all purposes	...	...	...	1607
Number of Complaints received	...	...	...	22
Nuisances detected without complaint	...	...	...	163
Notices served (4 formal, 141 informal)	...	...	...	145
Nuisances abated (a) by persons responsible	...	...	...	123
(b) by Council	...	...	...	—
Summonses taken out	...	...	...	—
Convictions	...	...	...	—

HOUSE NUISANCES.

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	57
Spouts cleaned and repaired	...	...	...	...	35
Pavements repaired	...	...	...	...	22
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	6
Dirty houses cleaned	...	...	...	...	33
Other house defects remedied	...	...	...	...	28

DRAINS, W.C.'s, &c.

Drains cleansed, repaired or ventilated	...	...	...	23
New drains laid	...	...	...	17
W.C.'s constructed	...	...	...	8
W.C.'s repaired	...	...	...	2
W.C.'s supplied with water (formerly without)	...	...	...	3
Earth closets, privies, repaired	...	...	...	38

WATER SUPPLY.

Houses supplied with water (formerly without)	...	...	...	—
Samples of water analysed (2 good, 3 bad)	...	...	...	5
Water Certificates granted (Rural Districts)	...	...	...	1
Water Certificates deferred	...	...	...	—
Cisterns cleansed, repaired	...	...	...	3
Wells cleansed, repaired	...	...	...	8
Wells closed	...	...	...	—

FOOD.

Seizures of unsound food (details separately)	...	...	...	—
Surrenders of unsound food	...	...	...	—

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

Number on register	...	...	...	...	16
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	42
Number of defects found	...	...	...	...	8
Number of defects remedied	...	...	...	...	8

BAKEHOUSES.

Number on register	...	...	...	...	10
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	22
Number of defects found	...	...	...	...	7
Number of defects remedied	...	...	...	...	7

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS and MILKSHOPS.

Number of Dairymen or Purveyors of milk on register	...	...	...	...	...	186
Number of Cowkeepers on register	...	...	...	...	...	238
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	41
Number of defects found	...	...	...	...	...	34
Number of defects remedied	...	...	...	...	...

FACTORIES and WORKSHOPS.

Number on register	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Number of defects found	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Number of defects remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

VARIOUS.

Visits to infected houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Houses disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Other items (e.g., Common Lodging Houses, Canal Boats, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

Canal not navigable.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TO THE

Buckingham Town Council,

ACTING AS THE

Urban District Council.

1920.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of Buckingham, acting
by the Town Council as the Urban District Council.*

THE CORNER HOUSE,

BUCKINGHAM,

March, 1921.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my tenth Annual Report for your District.

As last year there are two tables of vital statistics both supplied by the Registrar General.

Vital Statistics.—The population of your district for 1920 has been estimated by the Registrar General at 3,231.

During 1920 there were 38 deaths of residents in the district, giving a death-rate of 11·7 per 1,000. Of these deaths 19 were males and 19 females.

During the year there were 49 births in the Borough giving a birth-rate of 15·1 per 1,000. Of these births 28 were males and 21 females, containing amongst them 2 illegitimate male children.

There ^{was only one} ~~were no~~ death^{an} of ~~infants~~ under one year of age during the year. This is a fact for great congratulation, ^{giving an infantile death-rate of 20·4 per 1000 births.}

Natural and Social Conditions of the District.—The Borough of Buckingham consists of the town itself and the Hamlets of Lenborough, Gawcott and Bourton. The town lies in a valley, with the River Ouse running through it. The area of the whole district (exclusive of that covered by water) is 4,773 acres 1r. 9p.

Buckingham is the centre of a large agricultural district, with its own market on Saturdays, and consequently the occupation of its inhabitants, especially of the Hamlets, is mainly in agriculture. In the town is the Factory of Messrs. Thew, Hooker & Gilbey, where powdered milk, condensed milk, malted milk, cocoa and chocolate, etc., are manufactured, and this gives employment to a large number of people, both male and female. In addition there is a fairly large Motor Garage, two Corn Mills, and other industries common to a country town of this description. There is no occupation having any particular influence on the public health. There is one Voluntary Hospital in the shape of the Buckingham Nursing Home, which is maintained by voluntary contributions, and where five male and five

female adult patients can be admitted at one time, with cots for two or three children. During 1920, work for improving and altering the Nursing Home (now called the Buckingham Cottage Hospital) has commenced and Central Heating, Electric Light, extra Bedrooms and Bathrooms are being installed, the Hospital being closed temporarily for the purpose. In conjunction with the Hospital is run the Buckingham District Nursing Association and arrangements are being made to increase the staff of this organisation to at least four District Nurses, so that the needs of the District may be well attended to, both for general Nursing and Midwifery. This Hospital and these Nurses are and will be an enormous asset to the district. In addition to this there is the Buckingham Union Infirmary, under the care of the Guardians, and an Isolation Hospital for infectious cases, which will be dealt with later in the report.

The amount of Poor Law Relief during 1920 was £172 4s. 0d.

Water Supply.—The town of Buckingham receives its water supply from three separate sources.

- (1) Akeley Wells.
- (2) Maids Moreton Water Works.
- (3) Gawcott Road Wells.

(1) These are wells sunk in the high ground near the village of Akeley, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles away, the water being conveyed by mains to the reservoir at Maids Moreton. This supply is fairly constant, and has been improved of late years, but falls off to some extent in dry weather.

(2) At Maids Moreton ($1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Buckingham) there are two direct acting pumps, driven by 10 h.p. and 20 h.p. loco. type boilers, lifting water from a depth of 200 feet into the 60,000 gallon main reservoir situated at the same place, from whence it is distributed by the mains to the houses themselves. The large pump yields ordinarily 7,000-8,000 gallons per hour and the small pump 4,000-5,000 gallons.

(3) These two wells are situated up the Gawcott Road, which form an addition to the water supply, especially for that end of the town, but the main supply is from (1) and (2).

There is no possibility of contamination to any one of these sources of supply, and the quality is excellent. An analysis taken in 1912 showed the following:—

Total dissolved matter	...	...	...	38.92 grains.
Chlorine in Chloride	...	...	...	1.3 „
Ammonia free of Saline	...	...	...	.0 „
Ammonia Albuminoid	...	...	...	0.001 „
Nitrogen in Nitrates	...	...	...	0.014 „
Ditto in Nitrates	...	...	...	0. „
Oxygen required to oxidise Organic Matter } and Iron (in 3 hours)				0.078 „

Gawcott village has its own supply by gravitation from a well up Hillesden Road and this is satisfactory. Outlying cottages in the Bourton and Lenborough districts have their own supplies from wells.

Pollution of Rivers and Streams.—This is prevented by the treatment of the sewerage on the Sewage Farm. During the latter part of 1920 it became evident that the “blocked” state of the mill dam down Nelson Street had become a detriment to the Public Health of that area. Your Council therefore immediately took the proper steps to serve the usual notices on the proper persons for the cleaning out of the same.

Drainage and Sewerage.—The town of Buckingham is efficiently sewered, and gravitates to the Sewage Pumping Station, consisting of two pumps run by two oil engines, which lift the sewage from the mains on to the town Sewerage Farm, where it is dealt with by first passing two settling tanks, and thence on to the Farm itself, which consists of five acres, and which is used for the cultivation of mangels, giving a good crop yearly. The effluent runs into the River Ouse. During 1920 your Council have acquired another four acres of land for addition to the Sewage Farm, which will be cultivated in the same manner. This increase had become necessary, especially in view of the new Housing Scheme and the increase of sewage therefrom.

The plant at the Pumping Station consists of two 7-h.p. Tangye oil engines and two treble ram pumps, capable of raising 8,000 gallons per hour each. The approximate quantity of sewage dealt with daily is about 85,000 gallons.

GAWCOTT: This hamlet has no sewerage system like the town, the large majority of houses having pail closets or privies, the contents of which are removed weekly by the Corporation’s covered cart and taken to and disposed of in a field about a mile away. A few houses have water closets, and these with the waste water drain into a large culvert discharging its contents into an open dyke situated at the Preston Bissett end of the village.

BOURTON and LENBOROUGH have their own pail closets and privies, and deal with it on their own gardens.

Closet Accommodation.—An approximate estimate of the number of various types of closets in the town of Buckingham shows: (1) Fresh water W.C.’s, 642; (2) waste water and hand flushed, 3; (3) privies with fixed receptacles, 3; (4) privies with movable receptacles, 10. Nos. (3) and (4) are in houses which lie below the level of the main drains, and therefore cannot be dealt with so. The contents are collected weekly and carted to the Sewerage Farm.

GAWCOTT, LENBOROUGH and BOURTON: (1) Fresh Water W.C.'s 6; (2) waste water and hand flushed, 2; (3) privies with movable receptacles, 75; (4) privies with fixed receptacles, 55.

Scavenging.—House refuse is collected by the public scavenging cart and removed to the Sewage Farm, where it is ploughed in, and street scavenging is carried out by means of a hand cart and dealt with likewise. In addition to which a water cart and horse-broom are also used, but I am glad to say that the tar spraying of the main roads of the town has done a lot to diminish the dust nuisance, and so save the use of the water cart, as well as rendering it much easier to clean the streets of refuse and manure, etc.

The cleansing of the Market on Saturdays, situated in the High Street is carried out by the immediate flushing with hose pipes and the use of disinfectant where necessary. In connection with this I would point out that every effort should be made to see that cattle, etc., are kept on the proper concrete paving provided in the Market, as it is obviously a difficult matter to ensure the proper cleansing of the roadway of cattle droppings, etc., after the market is over.

In connection with house refuse every effort is made by the officials to get proper movable ashbins with covers provided for houses. The importance of these from a sanitary point of view cannot be over-estimated.

In GAWCOTT, BOURTON and LENBOROUGH house refuse is disposed of by the occupiers themselves on their own gardens.

Milk Supply.—This is good. Dairies and cowsheds are inspected at regular intervals by the Sanitary Inspector, and all details as required by the Bye-laws attended to. No action was taken during the year as to tuberculous milk.

MILK (MOTHER AND CHILDREN) ORDER, 1919.—No action was taken by the Local Authority under this Order.

Other Foods.—Inspections are constantly made by your Inspector, and the action taken during the year as to unsound food is given in tables at end of report. All bakehouses and slaughter-houses are frequently inspected, and any defects attended to. There is no public abattoir in the district.

The number of slaughter-houses are as follows:—

	1914.	January, 1920.	December, 1920.
Registered	6	7	8

Sale of Food and Drugs Act.—This is under the control of the Bucks County Police.

Infectious Diseases.—The number of notifiable infectious diseases has been exceptionally small during 1920—viz., the following:—

Four cases of Scarlet Fever.

Three cases of Enteric Fever.

Five cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Two cases of Tubercular Glands.

One case of Abdominal Tuberculosis.

The Isolation Hospital is situated in a field up the Brackley Road, standing in half-acre of ground surrounded by an unclimbable corrugated iron fence 6 feet high. There is accommodation here for eight adults at a time, or more if there are only children, but as there is only the one building it is only possible to take cases of one type of disease at a time. The Hospital is looked after by a nurse-caretaker, who, living in the town, keeps it in order and ready for immediate use when not occupied, and acts as nurse and manages the place when it is opened for the reception of cases. At the time of writing this report negotiations are in progress between your Council and the Buckingham Rural District Council whereby it is hoped arrangements may be made for the joint use of the latter's new Isolation Hospital near Gawcott. If these are successful it will then be possible to isolate cases of more than one disease at a time, which will be a great advantage, also a saving to the rates should be possible as the two authorities would then share the costs of administration instead of each running their own separate hospitals. It is greatly to be hoped that arrangements mutually satisfactory to both can be reached.

On the receipt of notification of infectious disease the premises where it occurs are immediately visited, and when isolation at home, in the case of scarlet fever, diphtheria, or typhoid fever, is impossible, the patient is transferred to the Hospital, and the premises at once thoroughly disinfected. In the case of scarlet fever cases treated at home, the Council provides necessary disinfectants and Eucalyptus oil, and in connection with the latter I must say that, in my opinion, when properly applied there is no doubt that it is of enormous use in stopping the spread of infection. In the case of diphtheria, the Council provides free of charge to necessitous cases the examination of throat swabs and anti-toxin, and I always advise the advisability of the prophylactic use of the latter for all contacts.

During the year 1920 I found it necessary to open the Isolation Hospital for the first two cases of Scarlet Fever. One of these cases occurred at the premises of a grocery stores in the town and the second could not possibly be isolated in its own home. The prompt isolation was fortunately justified by no other case occurring

at that time. The third and fourth cases occurred later in the year and were successfully isolated in their own homes.

The small outbreak of Enteric Fever was interesting. The cases occurred in the children of a Foreman Dairyman in charge of a large Dairy Farm in the district which supplies milk to a very large number of houses in the district itself. Your Sanitary Inspector and myself visited the premises and managed to successfully isolate the cases in their own home. On inspection of the premises a sample of water was taken from the well which supplies the house and dairy with its water supply and sent to the Royal Institute of Public Health. The Analyst's report showed that (1) the water was chemically unfit for domestic use and (2) the presence of a large number of Bacilli Coli. The use of the well was immediately stopped. No other cases occurred and the dairy continued to supply its milk. These cases occurred towards the end of the year and at the time of writing no satisfactory solution of the water supply has been found, but fortunately another supply a short distance away was available and is being used. The owner of the farm has the matter in hand and is using every endeavour to put the supply right or if necessary find another.

Your Council have appointed a Special Committee to act in conjunction with me should we again be visited by an epidemic of the scourge of Influenza.

Small-Pox.—In the event of a case of this disease occurring in the Borough, arrangements can immediately be made for the patient to be removed to the Hospital near Fenny Stratford, under the scheme for North Bucks, to which your Council are subscribers; and immediate steps taken to disinfect all premises and deal with all contacts. The number of successful vaccination certificates received during 1920 by the Registrar was 11 and 38 exemption certificates. No vaccinations were carried out by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Small-Pox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

Tuberculosis.—Here we come under the Bucks County Council Scheme, and we have in High Street a County Council Dispensary, which is visited by the County Tuberculosis Officer, Dr. L. T. Burra, on the third Saturday in every month, and to which all tubercular cases can be sent or attend. In addition to which Dr. Burra will come and see any case that desires it at their own home. Such cases, too, as are deemed suitable and require Sanatorium Treatment are sent by him to Peppard Sanatorium in Oxfordshire. There is no doubt that patients are becoming more and more willing to avail themselves of this scheme and the treatment offered, etc. In addition, too, the County Nurse, Nurse Pearson, does "Home

Visitation," and encourages patients to take full advantage of the lessons learnt while under treatment.

Venereal Diseases.—Here again we come under the Bucks County Council Scheme. Any patient suffering from Venereal Disease can be sent to the Venereal Clinic at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, or to certain London Hospitals for advice and treatment. Fortunately in a county town of this description we do not get a large number of these cases, such as they do in large industrial areas.

Maternity and Child Welfare.—The Infant Welfare Centre, under the auspices of the Voluntary Committee of Ladies, with myself as Medical Officer, has continued its work during the year at the Oddfellows' Hall, meeting on the last Wednesday in every month. Nurse Pearson, of the Bucks County Council, attends to the weighing of the children, and addresses are given by me on appropriate subjects, and other useful work is done by the lady helpers. I am glad to be able, again, to report that the Centre is increasing the usefulness of its work, by the number of Mothers and Babies who attend and the regularity of their attendances. I think I can honestly say that ~~the absence of any~~ ^{the last 2000} death of an infant under 1 year of age during the year in the district is partly due to the efforts of this centre. It has been possible, too, to give much useful advice, and to improve the health of many babies, and in some cases to obtain hospital treatment for such children as needed it. Advice is also given to expectant mothers should they attend.

School Inspection.—The School Inspection is carried out in the district by me, acting as Assistant School Medical Officer under the Bucks County Council. Each School is visited once a term, and the work is so arranged that each child gets three examinations during its school career. Nurse Pearson attends the inspections, and also does a large amount of "following up" work in the homes of the children, in conjunction with the Care Committees of each school. A large amount of useful work is also done at the Schools by the Nurses at the Nursing Home. The majority of the defects found are enlarged tonsils and adenoids, defective teeth, and defective eyes, and in connection with these treatment is offered at nominal charges under the County Council Scheme. The tonsils and adenoids are dealt with at the Nursing Home, the doctor appointed for this purpose being Dr. Pearson, and it is satisfactory to note that nearly 50 cases were again dealt with during 1920. The teeth cases that accept treatment attend the Dental School Clinic, under the care of Mr. Brooks, assisted by a Nursing Home Nurse, nearly every Saturday, gas being given for extraction work by the local doctors. Here again parents are showing appreciation, and a very large number of cases are dealt with annually. Defective eyes

attend at Dr. Larking's Eye Clinic every Thursday afternoon. In connection with School work, I would point out that close co-operation exists between all teachers and myself with regard to infectious cases. Any infectious cases discovered in School are immediately notified to me by the teacher on a special form, and immediate steps can be taken to prevent spread of infection.

Other Services.—I would mention that your Council decided to join in with other Councils in North Bucks to utilise the services of a Motor Ambulance given by the Red Cross Society to North Bucks, on a scheme outlined by Col. W. H. Bull, K.H.S., V.D., of Stony Stratford, County Director of V.A.D.'s. This ambulance has already proved itself of great value, and it is now possible to remove serious and urgent cases for operations to Hospital in comfort and safety.

Housing.—Last year I dealt in detail with the General Housing Conditions in the Borough, and especially with regard to the need for erection of new houses, mentioning that your Council had commenced the necessary steps for a Housing Scheme by purchasing the site up Bourton Road. During 1920 this scheme has progressed rapidly and I am glad now to be able to report that at the end of the year 24 of the new houses were completed and occupied and the remainder of the 56 houses to be erected well in hand, the actual number finished and occupied at the time of writing being 33. Your District has the proud distinction of being the first Local Authority in the County to have one of their houses finished and occupied and this took place on July 15th, 1920. The drainage scheme is finished and the town water laid on and the new road across the site is practically completed. This Scheme is one of the most important events to be chronicled in the Public Health history of the District, and the benefit to the inhabitants should be enormous.

Overcrowding.—There have been no serious cases of overcrowding to deal with during the year.

Fitness of Houses.—In an old county town of this description the general standard of the houses, other than the new houses erected, is bound to be old fashioned, and only fair as to modern requirements, though the majority of the houses are sound structurally. The general character of defects found to exist will be seen by tables at the end of the report, and also all action taken under the various Acts appertaining thereto. At the present time the great difficulty experienced in getting defects remedied are (1) the high cost of material in houses of low rental, and (2) the inability of local firms to carry out the work expeditiously. During 1920 the Public Health Amendment Act, 1907, was adopted by your Council and should prove very useful as time goes on. The work under the

Housing Acts is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector in conjunction with myself.

In connection with "Fitness of Houses" I would specially mention the three Cottages up the Bourton Road abutting on the new site. These houses were inspected by me and your Inspector during the year, and reported on to your Council as being unfit for human habitation in their present condition. It is important, too, that these Cottages should be removed for the sake of the new Housing Scheme itself. Your Council have therefore entered into negotiation with the Ministry of Health, with a view to a sanction for purchase under the Housing Scheme, so that they may be demolished. It is greatly to be hoped that these negotiations will end successfully, as it is most important.

Mr. G. B. Chilvers is still your Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor, and again to him I would tender my grateful thanks for his courtesy and ready help at all times in our united work.

Your obedient Servant,

T. EBEN PEMBERTON, M.B., B.S.

**Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1920,
for the Urban District of Buckingham, on the administration
of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with
Factories, Workshops, Workplaces and Homework.**

1.—Inspection.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

PREMISES.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ..	10	Nil.	Nil.
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	55	Nil.	Nil.
Workplaces (other than outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Total	65		

2.—Defects Found.

PARTICULARS.	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Raferred to H.M. Inspector.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>	Nil.			
Want of cleanliness				
Want of ventilation				
Overcrowding				
Want of drainage of floors				
Other nuisances				
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient unsuitable or defective not separate for sexes				
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (s. 101)				
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100)				
Other offences (excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report) ...				
Total				

4.—Registered Workshops.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year :—

Timber Merchant	...	...	...	...	...	1
Boot and Shoe Repairers	...	...	...	...	...	6
Cabinet Makers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Saddlers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Millers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Milk Factory	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	7
Printers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Builders	...	...	...	...	...	4
Engineering	...	...	...	...	...	7
Dressmaking, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	9
Coachbuilding	...	...	...	...	...	5
Tailoring	...	...	...	...	...	4
Gas Works	...	...	...	...	...	1
Electric Light Works	...	...	...	...	...	1
Plumbers, Painters and Tinsmiths	...	...	...	...	...	6
Laundries	...	...	...	...	...	2
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	...	...	3
Total number of Workshops on Register						65

T. EBEN PEMBERTON, M.B., B.S.,
Medical Officer of Health.

January, 1921.

Causes of Death in Buckingham Urban District, 1920.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Males.	Females.
ALL CAUSES. (Civilians only).	19	19
Pulmonary Tuberculosis... ..	1	4
Cancer, Malignant Disease	3	3
Organic Heart Disease	3	4
Bronchitis... ..	1	
Pneumonia (all forms)		1
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	1	
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	1	
Suicide	1	
Other Defined Diseases	8	7
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age ...		1
TOTAL BIRTHS	28	21
Legitimate	26	21
Illegitimate	2	
POPULATION		
For Births and Deaths ... 3231		

TABLE XV.—Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the Year 1920.

(Provisional figures. Provisional populations estimated to the middle of 1920 have been used for the purposes of this Table. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns).

	BIRTH- RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULA- TION.	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.										RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS.		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.			
		All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping- cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 Years).	Total Deaths under One Year.	Deaths in Public Institutions.	Certified Causes of Death.	Inquest Cases.	Uncertified Causes of Death.	
England and Wales	25'4	12'4	0'01	0'00	0'19	0'04	0'11	0'15	0'28	0'48	8'3	80	24'3	92'2	6'6	1'2	
96 Great Towns, including London (Census Popula- tions exceeding 50,000) ...	26'2	12'5	0'01	0'00	0'22	0'04	0'14	0'16	0'31	0'43	10'4	85	31'3	92'2	7'1	0'7	
148 Smaller Towns (Census Populations 20,000—50,000)	24'9	11'3	0'02	0'00	0'19	0'03	0'10	0'14	0'27	0'38	7'8	80	16'5	93'2	5'3	1'5	
London	26'5	12'4	0'01	0'00	0'22	0'05	0'17	0'22	0'30	0'47	9'5	75	46'8	91'2	8'6	0'2	

Borough of Buckingham.

SANITARY INSPECTOR' REPORT, 1920.

This Return does not include work done under the Housing Acts.

1.—GENERAL.

Number of Inspections	...	...	...	...	338
Number of Complaints received	...	...	...	...	4
Nuisances detected without complaint	...	...	...	...	52
Notices served (53 formal) (3 informal)	...	...	...	...	56
Nuisances abated (a) by persons responsible	...	...	...	...	55
(b) by Council	...	...	...	...	—
Summonses taken out	...	...	...	...	—
Convictions	...	...	...	...	—

2.—HOUSE NUISANCES.

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Spouts cleaned and repaired	...	...	...	...	6
Pavements repaired	...	...	...	...	—
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	1
Dirty houses cleansed	...	...	...	...	2
Other house defects remedied	...	...	...	...	7

3.—DRAINS, W.C.'S, &C.

Drains cleansed, repaired, or ventilated	...	...	...	...	37
New drains laid	...	...	...	...	6
W.C.'s constructed	...	...	...	...	2
W.C.'s repaired	...	...	...	...	11
W.C.'s supplied with water (formerly without)	...	...	...	...	—
Earth closets, privies, repaired	...	...	...	...	1

4.—WATER SUPPLY.

Houses supplied with water (formerly without)	...	...	...	...	—
Samples of water analysed (— good) (1 bad)	...	...	...	...	1
Water Certificates granted (Rural Districts)	...	...	...	...	—
Water Certificates deferred (Rural Districts)	...	...	...	...	—
Cisterns cleansed, repaired	...	...	...	...	—
Wells cleansed, repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Wells closed	...	...	...	...	—

5.—FOOD.

Seizures of unsound food (details separately)	...	...	...	...	...
Surrenders of unsound food (details separately)	...	...	...	...	...
2 cwt. herrings	...	...	...	...	...

6.—SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

Number on register ...	...	...	...	...	8
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	28
Number of defects found	...	...	...	...	—
Number of defects remedied ...	...	...	...	...	—

7.—BAKEHOUSES.

Number on register ...	...	...	...	...	7
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	21
Number of defects found	...	...	...	...	—
Number of defects remedied ...	...	...	...	...	—

8.—DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

Number of dairymen or purveyors of milk on register	...	...	...	...	—
Number of cowkeepers on register ...	...	...	...	...	31
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	62
Number of defects found	...	...	...	...	—
Number of defects remedied ...	...	...	...	...	—

9.—FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Number on register ...	...	...	...	...	65
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	80
Number of defects found	...	...	...	...	2
Number of defects remedied ...	...	...	...	...	2

10.—VARIOUS.

Visits to infected houses	...	...	...	...	28
Houses disinfected	...	...	...	...	12
Other items (<i>e.g.</i> , common lodging houses, canal boats, etc.) ...	...	...	...	...	—

G. BELSON CHILVERS,

M.Inst.M.E., M.R.San.I., F.I.S.E.

Borough of Buckingham.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD TABLE.

STATEMENT required by Article V. of the Housing (Inspection of Districts) Regulations, 1910, in regard to the inspection of dwelling-houses under Section 17 (1) of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909.

	1920.
Number of houses inspected under and for the purpose of the Act	11
Number of such houses which were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	6
Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which representations were made to the Local Authority with a view to the making of Closing Orders	6
Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made by the Local Authority ...	3
Number of dwelling-houses the defects in which were remedied without the making of Closing Orders ...	Nil
Number of dwelling-houses which, after the making of Closing Orders, were made fit for habitation ...	Nil
Demolition Orders made	Nil
Number of houses demolished	Nil
Number of houses in which defects were remedied by Local Authority and costs recovered	Nil
Number of houses in which defects were remedied by Local Authority and costs not yet recovered	Nil

General Character of Defects found :

(a) Drainage defects	3
(b) Closet accommodation (insufficient or defective) ...	5
(c) Water supply exposed to pollution	Nil
(d) Insufficient circulation of air	3
(e) Dampness	3
(f) Insufficient light	Nil
(g) Dirty by Tenant's default	Nil
(h) Dirty by Landlord's default	Nil
(i) Insufficient paving	Nil
(j) Defective methods of refuse disposal	Nil
(k) Internal structural defects	9
(l) Defective roofs, gutters and down-pipes	9

Borough of Buckingham.

ADOPTIVE ACTS.

Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890	...	No.
Public Health Acts, Amendment Act, 1890, Part 3		No.
Public Health Acts, Amendment Act, 1907	...	Yes.

BYE-LAWS.

Slaughter Houses	...	...	...	...	Yes.
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	...	Yes.
Houses let in Lodgings	...	...	...	...	No.
New Streets and Buildings	...	...	...	...	Yes.
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	No.
Cleansing of Footways	...	...	...	...	Yes.
Removal of House Refuse	...	...	...	...	Yes.
Cleansing of Privies	...	...	...	...	Yes.
Prevention of Nuisances	...	...	...	...	Yes.
Keeping of Animals...	...	...	...	...	Yes.
Carriage of Offensive Matters	...	...	...	...	Yes.
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	Yes.
Tents, Vans, etc.	...	...	...	...	No.

REGULATIONS.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	...	...	...	Yes.
Water Supply	...	...	...	Yes.
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	No.

